

Political Assassinations

Was the assassination of the late President Kennedy a political gesture and not to be considered a crime, a violation of the moral code?

That all depends upon whether you are or are not a Communist.

The Communist believes there was nothing wrong with the murder of our President, except getting caught. Murder, according to the rules of communism, is political action. Morality is not involved.

It is reported that a member of Congress recently sought an investigation into information he claimed to have obtained that a number of assassins had been trained in Russia and were scattered throughout the world to destroy political leaders seeking to halt the spread of communism.

It is possible that his information is correct. In any event, recent news gives most conclusive evidence that the political use of assassination has become a general practice throughout the world. It further is true that those assassinated have, in nearly every case, been enemies of communism.

It happened recently in Viet Nam, in the Philippines, in Europe. It has been true particularly in Cuba, where Castro eliminated his enemies and has systematically been reducing his opposition. Murder, kidnapping, rioting and disorders of all sorts have been used to prevent democratic elections in Venezuela.

Christian nations, which subscribe to a moral code based on the Ten Commandments, look upon murder as the most serious of crimes. It is hard for persons governed by this code to accept the communist version that the ends justify the means.

Communism is an ideology premised upon the elimination of all opposition. Only when all opposition has been destroyed can communism become supreme.

At the same time, the communist doctrine teaches that murder, dishonesty, untruthfulness, robbery, rioting, resistance to established order — moralities to which we subscribe — are justified if, in their execution, they aid the cause of communism.

Thus we find much of the world today being run by thugs, murderers, thieves, assassins.

Through force of arms these persons have elevated themselves to places of power. Then, by creating a police state, they have proceeded to eliminate opposition. They have enslaved people, even to the point of making them prisoner behind high walls and killing those who might dare try to escape.

Communism makes its early gains by appeals to the have-nots. By enlisting the aid and support of those who have nothing to lose, communism is able to muster sufficient manpower to create the disorder, confusion—even murder—through which it brings great disturbance.

In some cases it succeeds because of the desire to put an end to disorder. In those cases people yield to the demands of communism, believing promises that acceptance of communist rule will end trouble. Then those people find themselves slaves to an ideology based upon the power of the rifle, the bayonet and the bomb, and without moral responsibility.

If this advance of communism is to continue, assassination of national leaders who stand in the way of ideological progress becomes a political necessity.

Is this why Kennedy was removed? May we expect an increase in assassinations in this country and elsewhere? Will we, too, yield to terrorism, surrendering freedom, in the belief we will gain surcease from fear?



News Analysis



Italy's Regime Strange Hybrid

By PHIL NEWSOM

Italy's new center-left government is making its bow this week.

It is a hybrid not totally satisfactory to anyone, the result of a marriage of former political enemies with beliefs widely divergent on subjects ranging from wage and price control to NATO.

But, contrarily, its planners hope it will provide a stability generally lacking in 24 previous Italian governments.

At its head is 47-year-old Christian Democrat Aldo Moro who as his party's secretary has been more accustomed to act as king-maker behind the scenes.

At Moro's side as vice premier is 72-year-old Socialist Pietro Nenni, most of whose stormy career has been spent in opposition, much of it in alliance with the Communists.

Their two parties, in coalition with the smaller Social Democrats and Republicans, make up the new government.

It is a government with a comfortable majority in Italy's 630-member chamber of deputies. But it is also a government of many compromises and its existence will depend on the shaky loyalties of the extreme right within the Christian Democrats and of the extreme left within Nenni's badly split Socialists.

Wins Party Vote Nenni won approval of participation in the new government by a vote of 59-40 within the party central committee. But his margin of victory depended on a man who will not even participate.

He is the party's No. 2 leader Riccardo Lombardi, a Marxist proponent of nationalization and neutrality who could at any time upset the balance by throwing his 16 central committee votes to the pro-Communists.

The colonists that they were still alive. There is no record of it, but it is quite likely that the memory of the harvest-home celebrations in England prompted the proclamation by Governor Bradford.

While we're talking about American institutions, let's put in a word about rocking chairs. President Kennedy, as everyone knows, used one in his office. One of President Johnson's first acts was to bring his rocking chair to his office.

In earlier days in our land, rocking chairs were much more widely used than now. On week days, people sat in them in the evenings, after the chores were done, for rest and relaxation.

And, on Sundays, in the clement seasons, they were moved to the front porch — and there, on the Day of Rest, people rocked, and looked, and nodded and waved to their neighbors. And watched the world go by — on foot and in horse-drawn carriages.

It just might be that if in these days we did more of that and less of the hell-raising that characterizes modern observance of Sundays and other holidays we'd be better off — both as a nation and as individuals.

Lombardi refused a post in the new regime.

The compromises through which the new government was formed themselves make up a hodge podge.

The Socialists gave lukewarm agreement to Italy's continued membership in NATO and "the obligations that derive therefrom." They also agreed to permit the government to enter into negotiations for participation in the U. S.-proposed multinational nuclear naval force for NATO.

Contains Escape Clause But an "escape clause" also permits them to oppose such a force when or if it should come up for parliamentary debate.

On economic policy, the Christian Democrats gave ground, agreeing to forego a wage or price freeze. The latter measure is one strongly favored by the Christian Democratic right wing.

All parties reportedly agreed on the urgent need to restore the confidence of businessmen, badly shaken by the nationalization of Italy's electric industry.

This will be one of the first issues to test the new government.

Labor unions inside the state-owned railroads and other state employees are demanding wage increases estimated to cost \$672 million per year.

They could throw the country into a disastrous inflationary spiral, a situation which would fit exactly into Communist plans.

The questions of internal stability and Italy's place in world affairs still lie ahead.

The right men is likely to be much diminished if the balanced ticket deadweights the system.

After religious balance would come racial balance and thereafter, who knows what balance, further to confuse the already imperfect means by which presidents are nominated for that office. And if there is to be religious balance, shall Protestants and Catholics only be considered or, for example, should Jews get their turn? And, if so, how would the choice be made? Perhaps by playing a little game of odd man out.

Strange Situation The all-out balanced ticket system is likely to be accompanied by a strange kind of racial segregation in political office. The office of borough president of Manhattan has become a segregated job in New York City. It has become a political tradition to nominate for that post a Negro. There are a few jobs in the federal government that have come to be considered the preserve of a member of a given race or of a woman.

The late President named Andrew Hatcher as his assistant press secretary. Hatcher was the first Negro in that job. You may be sure that from now on there will be a Negro press secretary for many, many years to come.

So might a religion or a race get a stranglehold on a party's ticket system. We just got rid of the protestant stranglehold on presidential tickets. We should be too smart to get hooked that way again.

Others, including notable protestants, are being mentioned as likely Democratic vice presidential nominees. But the scattered emphasis on a presidential ticket balanced between Catholics and protestants is, nevertheless, significant and something wholly new to presidential politics. Geographical balance long has been an accepted fact of U.S. politics.

The art of presidential politics will become much more complex and its ability to pick

THE LIGHTER SIDE:



Congress Wives Want Ident Cards

By DICK WEST

WASHINGTON (UPI) — As little as you might think about it, which in most cases is very little indeed, a congressman's wife is also his constituent.

She has a right, just like any other citizen, to buttonhole her congressman and seek a redress of grievances.

She also has a right, if things don't work out to her satisfaction, to vote against him in the next election.

A congressman may not pay much heed to his spouse when she speaks to him as a wife. But when she addresses him as a constituent, he is duty-bound to listen.

Pleases Constituent

If, then, a congressman introduces legislation specifically designed to please his wife, he is only doing what he would do for any other constituent. No more, no less.

Bear this in mind, please, as we consider a resolution introduced in the House this week by Rep. Compton I. White Jr., an Idaho Democrat and husband.

White's resolution resolves that "The Committee on House Administration shall issue to the spouse of each member of the House of Representatives an appropriate identification card."

At first glance, the need for this particular type of legislation might not appear acute. I'll confess that its significance eluded me in the beginning.

But after talking with White, and reading a "companion press release, I can see how it would serve a worthy purpose.

White explained that his wife and the wives of some of his colleagues have had difficulty identifying themselves while out shopping in Washington.

Check-Cashing Difficult When they tried to cash checks or open charge accounts and were asked for identification, they could only produce documents from their home states. Some stores balked at accepting these.

The ladies reasoned that it would be simpler to carry a congressional identification card than it would to take a husband along every time they went shopping, which sounds logical.

So White introduced his resolution to accommodate them.

It might be argued that the measure is a form of nepotism, since a congressman is using his official position to promote legislation for a member of his family. But that is clearly nonsense.

No husband in his right mind would do anything to make it easier for his wife to cash checks and open charge accounts while shopping. A congressman would only do that for a constituent.

In Days Gone By

Taken from the files of the News-Review

40 YEARS AGO Dec. 5, 1923

G. T. Bennett, the former owner of the Mill St. Grocery store who recently sold that place of business to J. B. Needham, has purchased the North Side Grocery from Lee Knudson and has taken possession of the business.

Coleman lanterns and lamps were advertised by the Churchill Hardware Store at Winchester as the "Light of a Thousand Uses," and indispensable in the city and farm home. "Perfectly safe, cannot blow out by wind, and make ideal holiday gifts," the ad continues.

25 YEARS AGO Dec. 5, 1938

Douglas County farmers will meet in their respective communities on Dec. 7 and make arrangements for carrying on the 1939 agricultural conservation and range programs. Community committeemen and delegates to the county convention will be elected and details of the 1939 program will be explained. The nature of wheat allotments given many farms in Douglas County is not generally understood, states J. Roland Parker, secretary of the Douglas County Agricultural Conservation Association, and individuals with wheat allotments should endeavor to attend the meetings.

10 YEARS AGO Dec. 5, 1953

Construction has begun on a new city hall at Drain, according to a report received today. Construction was launched in spite of the fact that only \$1,100 is on hand in the building fund. Construction will continue until funds run out. It will be completed through donations and money raising projects carried on by the Drain Volunteer Fire Department. Almost the entire project will be on a volunteer basis. Estimated cost of materials is \$8,000.

The Almanac

By United Press International

Today is Thursday, Dec. 5, the 339th day of 1963 with 26 to follow.

The moon is approaching its last quarter.

The evening stars are Jupiter, Saturn and Venus.

On this day in history:

In 1776, the first scholastic fraternity in America, Phi Beta Kappa, was organized at the College of William and Mary.

In 1848, President Polk confirmed the discovery of gold in California, giving impetus to the gold rush of '48 and '49.

In 1933, Prohibition was abolished with the 21st Amendment.

In 1934, 66 persons were executed in the Soviet Union following the "purge trials" at which they were charged with plotting against the Stalin Regime.

A thought for the day — The English satirist, Jonathan Swift, said: "Satire is a sort of glass, wherein beholders do generally discover everybody's face but their own."

Influenza Gains

Douglas County's incidence of influenza going into the last week of November was among the highest in the state, according to the Oregon Communicable Disease Report from the state Board of Health.

It showed the county had 35 reported cases. Only Klamath County with 48 cases had more.

UNHITCH THAT GIRDLE

YORK, England (UPI) — A driving instructor told women drivers today to unhitch that girdle.

Motor Schools Association Secretary Patrick Murphy said that some women bind themselves so tightly with girdles and brassieres that their movements are restricted.

Daily Bible Reading

By Roseburg Ministerial Association

MATTHEW 6:19-23

Treasure, possession and ownership are widely used terms these days denoting the substance of personal security by many people. Without resources a certain degree of security is destroyed for us all. However the temporality of "things" is well demonstrated to us daily in the expenditures we encounter. Many a couple has spent a lifetime laying aside funds to be used for retirement only to have them all used because of sickness or tragedy.

The wisdom of our Lord displayed in today's passage denotes a truth that can change the narrow, miserly and unhappy way of some lives. In truth, Jesus said, "Do not be dependent upon yourself when it is possible for the mantle of human security to be removed from you." Place your treasure (loyalty, devotion, or gift of

life) where it can always be. Where our treasure is placed is also where the central thrust of our life will be.

Without placing our "treasure" in the scheme of God's action, we may very well be left without when human life is no more our privilege. Each of us ought to be serving God to the best of our abilities. Our so-called "career" is only the means by which we can earn our expenses in order to live to the glory of God. When serving God each human thing we do has a certain sacredness about it because it is a part of our efforts in behalf of God.

The only "thing" we really have to do is to live a life that is a credit to Him Who made us in His image.

Friend of mine, please do not spend so much time laying out that you will find it most uncomfortable lying down.

Donald H. Smith, Minister Westside Christian Church

The Editor's Corner

By Charles V. Stanton

Former Resident Dislikes Texas Hunting Practices

Mrs. Ernest J. (Viannett) Martin, who once wrote for The News-Review, is righteously outraged by hunting practices in Texas, where she now lives.

Mr. and Mrs. Martin had a home for many years on Highway 38 a short distance west of Drain. Mrs. Martin, with a long history of literary production, wrote a feature column, The Mending Basket, for The News-Review. Hers was a column of personal experience and philosophic thought. It had wide readership.

Several years ago they moved to Austin, Texas, where they now make their home. They live at 315 Atlanta St., Zone 3, if anyone cares to write.

We've had several communications from Mrs. Martin recently. She isn't at all happy with deer hunting in Texas. She points out that owners of private lands charge hunters fees of considerable size for the privilege of entry upon these posted acres. She enclosed newspaper photographs of one case where a landowner had erected a covered "blind" on a steel frame overlooking a small meadow and leased out hunting privilege.

This isn't at all sportsmanlike in the opinion of Mrs. Martin.

When she and "E.J.", as she calls him, lived in Douglas County they had unlimited free hunting area. They took their chances along with everyone else. Not so in Texas, she avers. In Texas "you pay, and pay, and pay."

"One newspaper clipping which she mailed contains an official forecast of the hunting season, reporting that there are too many deer. Deer population is too great for the amount of available feed, it was reported. Starvation is expected to kill more deer than will fall to the hunters. One county is urging an influx of hunters to kill off an excess population of female deer.

This same situation in Oregon brought such an avalanche

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